

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 484

A bill to amend 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1, entitled  
"Michigan employment security act,"  
by amending the title and section 2 (MCL 421.2) and by adding  
sections 10a and 26a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 TITLE  
2 An act to protect the welfare of the people of this state  
3 through the establishment of an unemployment compensation fund, and  
4 to provide for the disbursement thereof; to create certain other  
5 funds; to create the Michigan employment security commission, and  
6 to prescribe its powers and duties; to provide for the protection  
7 of the people of this state from the hazards of unemployment; to  
8 levy and provide for contributions from employers; **TO LEVY AND**

1 **PROVIDE FOR OBLIGATION ASSESSMENTS;** to provide for the collection  
2 of ~~such~~**THOSE** contributions **AND ASSESSMENTS;** to enter into  
3 reciprocal agreements and to cooperate with agencies of the United  
4 States and of other states charged with the administration of any  
5 unemployment insurance law; to furnish certain information to  
6 certain governmental agencies for use in administering public  
7 benefit and child support programs and investigating and  
8 prosecuting fraud; to provide for the payment of benefits; to  
9 provide for appeals from redeterminations, decisions and notices of  
10 assessments; and for referees and a board of review to hear and  
11 decide the issues arising from redeterminations, decisions and  
12 notices of assessment; to provide for the cooperation of this state  
13 and compliance with the provisions of the social security act and  
14 the Wagner-Peyser act passed by the Congress of the United States  
15 of America; to provide for the establishment and maintenance of  
16 free public employment offices; to provide for the transfer of  
17 funds; to make appropriations for carrying out the provisions of  
18 this act; to prescribe remedies and penalties for the violation of  
19 ~~the provisions of this act;~~ and to repeal all acts and parts of  
20 acts inconsistent with ~~the provisions of this act.~~

21       Sec. 2. ~~(1) Declaration of policy.~~The legislature acting in  
22 the exercise of the police power of the state declares that the  
23 public policy of the state is as follows: Economic insecurity due  
24 to unemployment is a serious menace to the health, morals, and  
25 welfare of the people of this state. Involuntary unemployment is a  
26 subject of general interest and concern which requires action by  
27 the legislature to prevent its spread and to lighten its burden

1 which so often falls with crushing force upon the unemployed worker  
2 and his OR HER family, to the detriment of the welfare of the  
3 people of this state. Social security requires protection against  
4 this hazard of our economic life. Employers should be encouraged to  
5 provide stable employment. The systematic accumulation of funds  
6 during periods of employment to provide benefits for periods of  
7 unemployment by the setting aside of unemployment reserves to be  
8 used for the benefit of persons unemployed through no fault of  
9 their own, thus maintaining purchasing power and limiting the  
10 serious social consequences of relief assistance, is for the public  
11 good, and the general welfare of the people of this state.

12 (2) THE LEGISLATURE FINDS THAT FROM TIME TO TIME HIGH LEVELS  
13 OF UNEMPLOYMENT HAVE RESULTED IN THE EXHAUSTION OF THE FUNDS IN  
14 THIS STATE'S ACCOUNT OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND, HAS REQUIRED  
15 ADVANCES OR LOANS TO THE STATE FROM THE FEDERAL ACCOUNT OF THE  
16 UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND, AND HAS CAUSED THE IMPOSITION OF LAWFUL  
17 PENALTY TAXES AND SOLVENCY TAXES TO REPAY THOSE ADVANCES AND THE  
18 INTEREST ON THOSE ADVANCES. THE FINANCING AND PAYMENT OF THE  
19 OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AMOUNT HERETOFORE OR HEREAFTER ADVANCED OR  
20 LOANED TO THIS STATE FROM THE FEDERAL ACCOUNT OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT  
21 TRUST FUND AND THE INTEREST ON THOSE LOANS, IF ANY, THE FUNDING OF  
22 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS, AND THE FINANCING AND FUNDING  
23 OF THIS STATE'S ACCOUNT IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND INCLUDING,  
24 WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE FUNDING OF SUFFICIENT FUND BALANCES IN THE  
25 UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND, ARE AN ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTION AND  
26 PUBLIC PURPOSE OF THIS STATE. THE LEGISLATURE FURTHER FINDS THAT  
27 THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS BY THE MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY OR OTHER

1 ISSUER TO FINANCE THE FOREGOING PAYMENTS AND TO AVOID OR REDUCE THE  
2 IMPOSITION OF PENALTY TAXES AND SOLVENCY TAXES WILL FURTHER AND  
3 FACILITATE AN ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTION AND PUBLIC PURPOSE OF  
4 THIS STATE THAT WILL ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY AND  
5 COMMERCE, FOSTER ECONOMIC GROWTH, PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
6 FOR THE CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE AND FURTHER OTHER  
7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES IN THIS STATE, AND IN GENERAL  
8 PROMOTE THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS  
9 STATE.

10 SEC. 10A. (1) THE OBLIGATION TRUST FUND IS CREATED AS A  
11 SEPARATE FUND IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE ASSETS OF THE OBLIGATION  
12 TRUST FUND SHALL NOT BE COMMINGLED WITH ANY OTHER FUND AND SHALL  
13 NOT BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

14 (2) THE STATE TREASURER MAY RECEIVE MONEY OR OTHER ASSETS FROM  
15 ANY SOURCE FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE FUND. ALL OBLIGATION ASSESSMENTS ON  
16 EMPLOYERS COLLECTED UNDER SECTION 26A; ALL INTEREST ON PAYMENTS,  
17 PENALTIES, AND DAMAGES COLLECTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE OBLIGATION  
18 ASSESSMENTS MADE UNDER SECTION 26A; AND A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS  
19 OF ANY OBLIGATIONS, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 26A, IN AMOUNTS  
20 SPECIFIED BY THE ISSUER, SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE OBLIGATION  
21 TRUST FUND. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL DIRECT THE INVESTMENT OF THE  
22 FUND. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT TO THE FUND INTEREST AND  
23 EARNINGS FROM FUND INVESTMENTS.

24 (3) MONEY IN THE OBLIGATION TRUST FUND AT THE CLOSE OF THE  
25 FISCAL YEAR SHALL REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT LAPSE TO THE  
26 GENERAL FUND. MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR  
27 THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN SECTION 26A.

1           (4) THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS SHALL  
2 BE THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FUND FOR AUDITING PURPOSES.

3           (5) THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS SHALL  
4 EXPEND MONEY FROM THE FUND ONLY FOR 1 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING  
5 PURPOSES:

6           (A) TO PAY OBLIGATIONS, ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, AND  
7 ASSOCIATED EXPENSES DESCRIBED IN SECTION 26A.

8           (B) TO REFUND ERRONEOUSLY COLLECTED ASSESSMENTS UNDER SECTION  
9 26A.

10          (C) FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 26A(1).

11          SEC. 26A. (1) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND  
12 REGULATORY AFFAIRS MAY REQUEST THE MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY TO  
13 ISSUE NOTES, BONDS, FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, OR OTHER EVIDENCES OF  
14 INDEBTEDNESS, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH MAY BE USED FOR ANY OF THE  
15 FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

16          (A) TO FINANCE, REFINANCE, REFUND, OR ADVANCE REFUND ANY  
17 PAYMENT REQUIRED OR OBLIGATION ARISING UNDER THIS SECTION OR UNDER  
18 42 USC 1321 AND 1322.

19          (B) TO REPAY AMOUNTS OWED OR TO BE OWED TO THE UNITED STATES  
20 TREASURY RESULTING FROM ADVANCES MADE TO THIS STATE BY THE FEDERAL  
21 GOVERNMENT UNDER FEDERAL LAW, INCLUDING 42 USC 1321, TOGETHER WITH  
22 INTEREST ON THOSE ADVANCES.

23          (C) TO REIMBURSE FUNDS ADVANCED OR LOANED UNDER EITHER OF THE  
24 FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

25           (i) BY THIS STATE TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND AND USED TO  
26 MAKE ANY PAYMENT REQUIRED OR OBLIGATION DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION  
27 OR 42 USC 1321.

1           (ii) BY THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND TO THE OBLIGATION TRUST  
2 FUND AND USED TO PAY OBLIGATIONS OF THE MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY.

3           (D) TO FUND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS AND THIS  
4 STATE'S ACCOUNT WITHIN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST  
5 FUND, INCLUDING BALANCES IN THAT ACCOUNT.

6           (E) TO FUND CAPITALIZED INTEREST; DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUNDS;  
7 AND PAYMENT OF COSTS OF, AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES IN CONNECTION  
8 WITH, ISSUING OBLIGATIONS.

9           (2) IN 2011 AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER IN WHICH ANY  
10 OBLIGATION IS OUTSTANDING, AN EMPLOYER IS SUBJECT TO, SHALL BE  
11 ASSESSED, AND SHALL PAY AN UNEMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT,  
12 WHICH SHALL BE COLLECTED QUARTERLY AND SHALL BE DEPOSITED TO THE  
13 CREDIT OF THE OBLIGATION TRUST FUND. THE OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT IS  
14 IN ADDITION TO THE EMPLOYER'S REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS, IS NOT  
15 SUBJECT TO THE LIMITING PROVISIONS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED UNDER  
16 THIS ACT, AND IS IN ADDITION TO AND SEPARATE FROM THE SOLVENCY TAX  
17 IMPOSED UNDER SECTION 19A.

18           (3) THE UNEMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT RATE SHALL BE  
19 DETERMINED BY THE STATE TREASURER AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE  
20 DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND  
21 SHALL BE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO ENSURE TIMELY PAYMENT OF ALL OF  
22 THE FOLLOWING:

23           (A) PRINCIPAL, INTEREST, AND ANY REDEMPTION PREMIUM ON THE  
24 OBLIGATIONS.

25           (B) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, CREDIT ENHANCEMENT AND  
26 TERMINATION FEES, AND OTHER FEES, IF ANY, IN CONNECTION WITH  
27 ISSUING THE OBLIGATIONS.

1 (C) ALL OTHER AMOUNTS REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED AND PAID UNDER  
2 THE TERMS OF A RESOLUTION, INDENTURE, OR AUTHORIZING STATUTE UNDER  
3 WHICH THE OBLIGATION IS ISSUED.

4 (D) AMOUNTS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE RATINGS ON THE  
5 OBLIGATIONS THAT ARE ASSIGNED BY A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RATING  
6 SERVICE AT A LEVEL DETERMINED BY THE STATE TREASURER, IN HIS OR HER  
7 SOLE DISCRETION.

8 (4) THE OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT RATE MAY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE  
9 EMPLOYER'S EXPERIENCE RATING FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE OBLIGATION  
10 ASSESSMENT RATE SHALL BE APPLIED AGAINST THE TAXABLE WAGE LIMIT  
11 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 44, AND SHALL BE ASSESSED AGAINST ALL  
12 CONTRIBUTING EMPLOYERS.

13 (5) THE OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT IS DUE AT THE SAME TIME,  
14 COLLECTED IN THE SAME MANNER, AND SUBJECT TO THE SAME PENALTIES AND  
15 INTEREST AS CONTRIBUTIONS ASSESSED UNDER THIS ACT.

16 (6) THE PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATION ASSESSMENTS RECEIVED EACH YEAR  
17 ARE IRREVOCABLY PLEDGED AND DEDICATED TO THE PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS  
18 AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES ON THOSE EXPENSES AND ARE SUBJECT TO  
19 THE PLEDGE AND LIEN MADE TO THE EXTENT AND AS DESCRIBED IN THE  
20 RESOLUTION, INDENTURE, OR THE AUTHORIZING STATUTE UNDER WHICH THE  
21 OBLIGATION IS ISSUED.

22 (7) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY  
23 AFFAIRS SHALL ADMINISTER AND CAUSE THE OBLIGATION ASSESSMENTS TO BE  
24 COLLECTED.

25 (8) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY  
26 AFFAIRS MAY REQUEST THE STATE TREASURER TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL  
27 SPECIAL SUBACCOUNTS WITHIN THE OBLIGATION TRUST FUND FOR THE

Senate Bill No. 484 as amended December 1, 2011

1 PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING MORE PRECISELY THE SOURCES OF PAYMENTS INTO  
2 AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE OBLIGATION TRUST FUND, OR AS MAY BE  
3 REQUIRED UNDER THE RESOLUTION OR INDENTURE AUTHORIZING THE  
4 OBLIGATIONS.

5 (9) THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY  
6 AFFAIRS OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE MAY ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE  
7 ISSUER OF THE OBLIGATIONS OR A THIRD PARTY AS IS NECESSARY TO ISSUE  
8 THE OBLIGATIONS. NOTHING IN THIS ACT OR ANY PROVISION OF ANY  
9 DOCUMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION CREATES OR CONSTITUTES STATE  
10 INDEBTEDNESS.

11 (10) AS USED IN THIS SECTION AND SECTION 10A:

12 (A) "MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY" MEANS THE AUTHORITY CREATED  
13 UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2010-2, MCL 12.194<<

14 >>.

15 (B) "OBLIGATION" MEANS A NOTE, BOND, FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OR  
16 OTHER EVIDENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS ISSUED AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

17 (C) "UNEMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION ASSESSMENT" MEANS AN ASSESSMENT  
18 ON AN EMPLOYER UNDER THIS SECTION.

19 (D) "OBLIGATION TRUST FUND" MEANS THE FUND CREATED IN SECTION  
20 10A.

21 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect  
22 unless all of the following bills of the 96th Legislature are  
23 enacted into law:

24 (a) Senate Bill No. 483.

25 (b) Senate Bill No. 806.